

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU

SUBJECT: CYPRIOT DISAPPOINTMENT WITH VIENNA VI CONTINUES

REF: NICOSIA 0967 (DTG 090815 APR 77)

1. SUMMARY: ALTHOUGH GREEK AND TURKISH CYPRIOTS CONTINUE TO
TRADE RECRIMINATIONS ABOUT VIENNA, THEY HAVE CAREFULLY AVOIDED
SUGGESTING THAT THE TALKS BE BROKEN OFF. TURKISH CYPRIOTS,
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PERHAPS AS TACTICAL MOVE INSPIRED BY DENKTASH, ARE REVIVING
THE SPECTER OF U.D.I. END SUMMARY

2. GREEK CYPRIOT NEGOTIATOR TASSOS PAPADOPOULOS IN A
TELEVISION INTERVIEW APR 12, PROMINENTLY REPORTED IN THE
PRESS THE FOLLOWING MORNING, CLAIMED THE NEXT FEW WEEKS
WILL SHOW IF TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE INTENDS TO CHANGE ITS

POSITIONS ON TERRITORY AND CONSTITUTION AND STATED THAT "UNLESS THERE IS A CHANGE ON THESE TWO ISSUES I DO NOT SEE ANY PROSPECT FOR THE FUTURE OF THE TALKS." HE REJECTED TURKISH CONSTITUTIONAL PROPOSALS FOR FAILING TO CONFORM TO ACCEPTED PRINCIPLES OF FEDERALISM AND COMPLAINED TURK-CYPRIOTS GAVE IMPRESSION IN VIENNA THEY WISH TO KEEP ALL TERRITORY THEY NOW HOLD. IN MORE POSITIVE VEIN, PAPADOPOULOS PREDICTED IF TURKISH SIDE DOES REVISE ITS VIEWS AND AT LEAST PROVIDES A CLEAR INDICATION OF ITS INTENTION THE PROSPECTS WILL BE OPEN FOR SUBSTANTIVE, CONSTRUCTIVE NEGOTIATION "WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE GUIDELINES AGREED BETWEEN PRESIDENT MAKARIOS AND MR DENKTASH." HE REJECTED THE IDEA OF BREAKING OFF TALKS AND EMPHASIZED "WE ARE GOING TO THE NEW TALKS IN NICOSIA IN MAY IN THE HOPE THAT WE SHALL FIND THIS DIFFERENTIATION OF POSITIONS BY THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS."

3. FOREIGN MINISTER CHRISTOPHIDES SPEAKING APR 14 POINTED TO "GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT IN GREEK CYPRIOT COMMUNITY THAT INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS HAD ACHIEVED NO PROGRESS AT ALL IN VIENNA" WHICH HE BLAMED ON FAILURE OF THE TURKISH SIDE TO HOLD SUBSTANTIVE, MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATION OR TO PUT FORWARD REASONABLE PROPOSALS. HE OBSERVED THAT BY SO DOING THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS NOT ONLY FAILED TO HONOR THEIR COMMITMENTS BUT ALSO WENT BACK ON AGREEMENT REACHED AT LAST MAKARIOS-DENKTASH MEETING. WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THERE HAD BEEN "DISQUIETING DEVELOPMENTS," CHRISTOPHIDES CAREFULLY POINTED OUT IN CONCLUSION "WE HAVE COMMITTED OURSELVES TO ANOTHER MEETING BETWEEN THE GREEK AND TURKISH CYPRIOT NEGOTIATORS IN MAY IN NICOSIA IN THE EXPECTATION THAT IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE MEANTIME THE TURKISH SIDE WILL CHANGE ITS NEGATIVE ATTITUDE AND WILL HONOR EVEN BELATEDLY THE COMMITMENTS IT HAS MADE."

4. GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS, WHICH RESUMED PUBLICATION APR 13 AFTER EASTER HIATUS, IN EDITORIALS HAS TRACKED CLOSELY WITH OFFICIAL STATEMENTS, BLAMING TURK INTRANSIGENCE AND FAILURE TO PRODUCE SUBSTANTIVE PROPOSALS FOR DISAPPOINTING RESULTS AT VIENNA VI. APR 15 SEMI-OFFICIAL PHILELEFTHEROS AND CONSERVATIVE AGHON REJECTED ARGUMENT THAT UP-COMING ELECTIONS IN TURKEY WILL MAKE ANY GREAT DIFFERENCE TO THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. PHILELEFTHEROS WROTE THAT ONLY PRESSURE ON TURKEY WILL LEAD TO NECESSARY CONCESSIONS AND THOSE CAPABLE OF EXERTING SUCH PRESSURE (U.S. AND WEST) HAVE SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY TO DO SO. AGHON WARNED GREEK SIDE AGAINST BREAKING OFF TALKS BUT IN ANTICIPATION OF TALKS' POSSIBLE FAILURE SUGGESTED THAT GREEK CYPRIOTS THINK ABOUT CHARTING "LONG TERM TACTICS OF STRUGGLE." WHEREAS AGHON EARLIER IN WEEK (APR 13) BLAMED THE WEST, THE U.N. AND U.S. FOR PUSHING GREEK CYPRIOTS INTO

TALKS, FOR NAIVELY GIVING CREDENCE TO TURKISH PROMISES
WITHOUT BRINGING PRESSURE ON TURKS TO COMPLY, TA NEA
APR 15 CRITICIZES PAPADOPOULOS FOR NOT TELLING PEOPLE THE
TRUTH ABOUT FOREIGN PRESSURE (U.S., U.N. AND WEST?)
EXERTED ON GREEK CYPRIOTSSIDE IN VIENNA. ONLY PRO-CLERIDES
SIMERINI COULD FIND SOME EVIDENCE OF FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENTS
AT VIENNA VI: FIRST, THE TALKS ARE NOT STALEMATED BUT WILL
RESUME IN MAY; SECOND, THE TURKISH CYPRIOT POSITIONS AND
INTENTIONS, HOWEVER IMPRECISE, ARE AT LEAST CLEARER THAN
BEFORE VIENNA VI; THIRD, TURKISH INTRANSIGENCE WAS PUBLICLY
REVEALED FOR WHOLE WORLD TO SEE. PAPER OBSERVED THAT NO ONE
BELIEVED VIENNA WOULD RESULT IN SOLUTION, NO ONE EXPECTED
TURKS TO ACCEPT GREEK PROPOSALS, THEREFORE, CURRENT WAVE OF
DISAPPOINTMENT IS UNREASONABLE. SIMILARLY, TURKS HAD BEEN
UNDER NO OBLIGATION PRIOR TO VIENNA TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS ON
TERRITORY AND THEY SHOULD NOT BE BLAMED FOR NOT HAVING
DONE SO.

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

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5. ON THE TURKISH CYPRIOT SIDE, REACTION OF LEADERSHIP HAS BEEN SOBER, MEASURED, AND FIRM. DENKTASH COMMENTED APR 12 THAT WIDE DIFFERENCES REMAINED ON TERRITORIAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES BUT THAT WITH GOODWILL AND REALISTIC APPROACH THESE DIFFERENCES COULD BE NARROWED. IN THIS REGARD, DENTASH STATED TURKS WOULD NOT BE PRESENTING A MAP AND SAID IT IS UP TO GREEK SIDE TO PRESENT "NEW PROPOSALS ON THE MAP." IN SAME VEIN, ONAN ON HIS RETURN NOTED THAT NO COMMON GROUND HAD BEEN FOUND BUT THAT THE HOLDING OF TALKS

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AND SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS WERE IN THEMSELVES POSITIVE DEVELOPMENTS.

6. TURKISH CYPRIOT PRESS HAS GENERALLY TAKEN A MORE PESSIMISTIC LINE, STRESSING LACK OF PROGRESS IN VIENNA, RIDICULING "UNREALISTIC GREEK PROPOSALS", AND CRITICIZING GREEK INTRANSIGENCE. PRESS, PERHAPS AS TACTIC INSPIRED BY DENKTASH TO ELICIT IMPROVED GREEK CYPRIOT PROPOSALS HAS ALSO NOTED THAT THERE IS A LIMIT TO TURKISH TOLERANCE OF THE PRESENT SITUATION AND HAS HIGHLIGHTED RECENT STATEMENTS OF "TFSC" PRIME MINISTER (KONUK AND HOUSE PRESIDENT (OREK), NOW VISITING TURKEY, ABOUT UDI IF PEACE EFFORTS FAIL.

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Message Attributes

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